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Chelsea Clinton doesn't rule out politics

NEW YORK (AFP) - Chelsea Clinton doesn't rule out seeking office one day in the footsteps of her former president father Bill and 2008 presidential candidate mother Hillary.

"Before my mom's campaign I would have said no," she says in the latest issue of Vogue magazine. "Now I don't know."

Chelsea Clinton, 32, lives

in New York and is working on a doctorate in international relations. She has also done some presenting for NBC television, starting last December.

The daughter of the former two-term Democratic president and the current secretary of state said she had always been immersed in politics and had voted in every possible election since turning 18.

The MORNING NEWS
wishes the Indian Community
a Happy Independence Day!



Aruba Scholarship Foundation celebrating 25 years of higher learning for Arubans

Total scholarships for the year \$27,000.

This is the 25th anniversary of the first scholarship granted by ASF

Aruba Scholarship Foundation (ASF) board members welcomed the five recipients for 2012-2013 to the Garage Cordia conference room on Friday afternoon, August 10 to distribute \$27,000 in financial assistance.

The ASF is celebrating 25 years of providing funding for islanders to attend institutions of higher learning in nations



Godolieve Olibrice signs her contract, Thais Nierop-Kappel



Marc Thode receives his scholarship

The ASF also works diligently to obtain more affordable tuitions for students other than those receiving scholarships. They are able to arrange for a large number of island graduates to attend the University of Central Florida under the cooperative Latin American/Caribbean Scholarship program (LAC). Aruban students

receive a 70% discount on tuition, the same tuition paid by residents of Florida. This is granted once they have been accepted to the school.

This year's scholarship recipients are:

- Leonardo Dirksen attending Valencia College, Orlando to study Business Management
- Paola Adames attending UCF, Orlando to study Hospitality Management
- Margret Flores attending U of South Florida, Tampa to study Psychology
- Marc Thode attending UCF, Orlando to study Communications

Continued on page 5

other than Holland, most in the U.S. This policy is to encourage diversity in education and experience for the next generation.

Schools outside of Holland usually have much higher costs. Students require additional assistance other than student loans from the government to afford an education. ASF also enforces a higher standard of qualification for continuing assistance as students must maintain a certain grade point average for annual funding.



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New Protocol includes substantial subsidy for sport facilities!



One of the matters of grave concern for local sports organizations is the high cost of electricity at sport facilities, which they often make reference to. The high cost of energy has resulted in many organizations refusing to organize activities in the evenings simply to avoid these high costs.

Aruba currently has 36 athletic facilities each with their own illuminated fields which struggle from month to month to meet the high electricity bills to continue operating the facility. The high electrical bills come from the use of the illumination of the fields at night time for different ball games. Fact is that most games are played at night, but regrettably because of the high cost of op-

erating the lights on the field many games are no longer scheduled for the evenings.

For this very reason, during the National Dialogue, it was proposed that a special tariff be implemented for athletic facilities. The proposal is to reduce the expenses relative to the use of the big lights that are necessary to illuminate the fields so the games can be played in the evenings.

Hence, the National Social Dialogue proposed a substantial reduction in the electric tariff for these facilities.

According to the government, the next step will be to sit down with WEB and ELMAR and Utilities N.V. to decide how much the reduction should be and exactly how to factor this in.

Mr. David G. Kock sworn in as a new member of the Advisory Board



Recently, The Advisory Board welcomed a new council member, attorney David G. Kock, officially sworn in by Governor Refunjol. The event took place at the Governor's offices in the presence of Prime Minister Mike Eman, chairman of the Advisory Board Mr. Arie J. Swaen, the Deputy Secretary Mr. Albert Burr Camp, Mrs. Paola Jimenez, partner of Mr. Kock, Mr. John S. Cockpit Erdal, former councilman, and Mr. Martijn Boelen, Director of the Office of the Governor.

The Advisory Council has a high state of scholarship and experience regarding law, established under the Constitution of Aruba. It consists of five members including the chairman and advises the Government and the Aruba Parliament regarding drafting legislation and legal administration.

Mr. Kock is a well known lawyer on Aruba with over 20 years of legal experience, particularly in the area of criminal law, criminal procedure and labor law. Mr. Kock holds a law degree from both the University of Aruba (Aruban law), obtained in 1992 as the Erasmus University Rotterdam (Dutch law), obtained in 2004. Also, from 1994 to 1996, Mr. Kock did postgraduate training in notary's law at the University of the Netherlands Antilles, and from 2005 to 2006

he specialized in employment law at the Universidad Externado, in Bogotá, Colombia.

Mr. Kock began his career in the Swaen Law Offices from 1992 to 1996. 1997 to 1998 he was a notary at the Eman Notary Office and from 1998 to 2001 he was a partner at the law firm Swaen & Kock. He then became a partner at the Marchese Law firm from 2001 to 2004 which took the name Marchese, David Kock & Wix. In 2004, Mr. Kock started his own practice, David Kock Legal, founded in Aruba. Since then this practice has grown and expanded with offices in Curacao, Bonaire, Sint Maarten and Bogota. In addition to his practice, Mr. Kock teaches labor law at the University of Aruba.

The swearing in of Attorney Kock now establishes the Advisory Board again complete. A vacancy was with the honorable discharge of Mr. John S. Kuiperdal in July. Mr. Kuiperdal served on the council from October 2008 to July 2012.



During this period he made a valuable contribution to Aruban society with his knowledge, insight and experience.

The Advisory Board expresses their sincere gratitude to Mr. Kuiperdal for his services in the interest of the Aruban people while warmly greeting Mr. Kock as the new member to complete the Advisory Board.

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New Bonaire TV Channel now seen here on Aruba!



On August 13, EnergiaVision of Bonaire was added to SETAR Cable program line up and on Channel 55! Bonaire politician, Ramoncito Booi represented the Bonaire Chan-

nel and spoke to Aruba during a press conference held here at SETAR in Seroe Blanco. Aruba Minister Sevinger chimed in with words of congratulations for the first ever

Bonaire channel to be on cable both on Aruba and in Curacao. He wished them much success for the future.

The television program began with a speech by SETAR N.V. director, Roland Croes who remarked that Channel 55 was made possible through the cooperation of the three islands, Bonaire, Curacao and Aruba – Telbo, UTS and SETAR N.V. This was followed by a special interview by the prime Minister of Aruba in which he too, congratulated the Channel and highlighted the excellent relations between Bonaire and Aruba.

EnergiaVision is a television station in combination with a radio station on Bonaire. This is a brand new medium for Bonaire which has met all stringent modern technological requirements to join the air waves. This new station went on the air officially in the month of May 2012 with local programming on Bonaire on channel 2 via cable of TELBO MiTv. EnergiaVision's ambition is to reach the entire Dutch Caribbean region with their programming. They will begin



sending their signal to Aruba on Channel 55, then to Curacao on Channel 22, and then on to St. Maarten and the rest of the BES islands. Eventually, they plan to reach all the way to Holland within the near future.

On Monday, August 13 Channel 55 they began broadcasting EnergiaVision on Aruba. Their programming will include, among others, an early morning talk show, news, cultural programs, programs of nature, entertainment, children's programs, sports, education and lifestyle programs.

EnergiaVision will vary their programs to promote

general development, to challenge young people to excellence and to promote the interchange of information. They will have 2 news segments daily, with a section for social concerns and an opinion program, and a show of cooking. They also intend to transmit live activities.

Aruban tele viewers were part of the proud tele-audience on Monday evening for the debut of EnergiaVision on Channel 55. EnergiaVision will undoubtedly bring the islands closer together and at the same time keep Bonairians residing on Aruba fully abreast of what is happening on the lovely island of Bonaire.

"Your" Aruba Experience: keeping up with the times!



There is no doubt that Aruba is an island in transition; new resorts, shopping centers, restaurants and activity operators are appearing on the horizon on a regular basis, as well as improvements and updating of the infrastructure. Publications dedicated to informing visitors as to what is to do and where to go have to keep up as well, and Aruba Experience magazine, one of the longest-established annual magazines, is also changing with the times.

Owner Susan Ruiter, who acquired the franchise at the end of 2010, is a dynamic young lady who is sensitive to how smart generations communicate and is committed to educating entertaining and also engaging her readership. "we are implementing a cross media strategy taking

advantage of what each medium does best. Web is a tool that augments what we do, yet we aware that web surfing is a rapid activity and web pages competes with other pages for attention. With Aruba Experience; print, web and social networks serve complementary purposes.

Aruba experience magazine aims to immerse readers with information about Aruba and in the endless possibilities this "one happy island" has to offer making travel experience the richest that it can be to her/his needs and desires; the web, to enable exploration of that solution and enable the user to satisfy the need for more information, moving them to deeper consideration". Now published twice a year, to provide the timeliest information for island visitors and residents.

The publication also invites frequent visitors and residents to personalize each issue and make it "My Aruba Experience," quite literally. An interactive Facebook page allows for fans to provide input regarding the magazine's content and appearance, such as the most recent cover being selected by popular vote. Anyone is welcome to submit their story of why they return to Aruba frequently, or chose to live here, in 300 words

or less. Anecdotes of memorable encounters are welcome, which provide insight into Aruba's enduring allure, and in each issue one of the best stories will be printed; good photos to punctuate the tale will increase the chance of your story being selected.

Aruba Experience magazine was the first such publication to provide valuable information in both English and Spanish. Ever aware of the increasing market of Latin American visitors who are avid shoppers, love activities and tours, and consider fine dining an essential part of any vacation, the magazine has particularly paid attention to establishing a diverse distribution in Venezuela, which has grown exponentially as a source of business for Aruban vendors.

The hardcover edition is the signature, in-room publication found in every timeshare resort on Aruba, which guarantees an extensive audience for its content. However, readers are encouraged by though social media, to not just glance at its pages, but to remain engaged and join a community, providing their input and feeling truly connected to the island long after their visit.

"This is the way almost all ages and generations are communicating now," observed Susan, "and I think it is fantastic. We love the input and exchange; our readers fuel our creativity and help us produce the publication they truly want and need, which they will collect and keep as they share their Aruba Experience."

No decision yet on Assange asylum, Ecuador says

QUITO (AFP) - Ecuador's President Rafael Correa yesterday denied a British media report that his country had granted asylum to WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange.

"The rumor of asylum for Assange is false. No decision has yet been taken. Awaiting report from the foreign ministry," Correa wrote on Twitter.

Assange, 41, took refuge at Ecuador's embassy in London on June 19 to avoid extradition to Sweden, where the Australian national faces police questioning over sexual assault allegations.

But he also fears being extradited to the United States to face charges over WikiLeaks' publishing of a trove of secret documents, includ-

ing information relating to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and countless diplomatic cables.

Correa's statement came after Britain's Guardian newspaper said on its website yesterday that Ecuador was set to grant Assange asylum, citing an unnamed official in Quito.

"We see Assange's request as a humanitarian issue," the official told the Guardian.

"It is clear that when Julian entered the embassy there was already some sort of deal," the official added.

In an interview late Monday, Correa said he expected to respond to Assange's political asylum application later this week.

"We expect to have a

meeting no later than today," Correa said, referring to his diplomats in London.

Even if his asylum request is granted, it is unclear whether Assange will be allowed to travel to Quito as British police are waiting outside the embassy ready to arrest him for breaching the terms of his bail granted in 2010.

He has embarked on a marathon round of court battles, but finally exhausted all his options under British law in June when the Supreme Court overturned his appeal against extradition.

The mother of the WikiLeaks founder met with Correa earlier this month to discuss the fate of her son.

Rembrandt Regatta getting bigger and better each year!



Miranda accepts top prize from Robert Moons for husband Jurgen Schneider



Prokids category Ethan Westera first place.



First Place Yachts Dash

The fourth edition of Aruba's own regatta has grown to include a number of entries not only from Aruba, but the region and some internationally registered boats as well. Categories have expanded and this year, organizers welcomed the CEO of Budget Marine, Robbie Farron, who traveled from their Sint Maarten headquarters to compete and hand over a new prize. As a major sponsor of the event he was pleased to award the Budget Marine "Fastest Boat" trophy bringing with it a 1000 AWG (\$557) check as a grand finale to the award ceremony on Sunday evening, August 12. The winner was Jurgen Schneider, competing in the Sunfish category. Accepting the award on his behalf was his wife Miranda and Robert Moons, president of the Aruba Sunfish Association.

Other new events this year involved non-sailors, such as a 5K run late Saturday afternoon, a swimming competition

on Sunday and beach tennis matches throughout the weekend. The regatta began early Friday morning with the famous "Round Aruba" event, where the bigger yachts completely circumnavigate the island. Dash from Curacao captained by Remco van Dortmond took first place, and Aruban boats Screaming Eagle captained by Sven Schneider and Monsoon captained by Jan van Roeckel claimed second and third.

Regatta General Coordinator Eric Mijts commented that sailors dealt with every sort of wind conditions this year. "Friday we had gale force winds with many boats suffering damage. Saturday could not have been better; perfect strong sailing weather with winds steady. Sunday we saw everything, squalls, rain, gusts, shifting winds. It was a real challenge for the kitesurfers with only about 12 knots winds."

Continued on page 5

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Aruba Scholarship Foundation celebrating 25 years of higher learning for Aruban

Continued from page 1



Recipients, parents, and Board members

Aruba's 2010 Best Graduated Award winner, Godelieve Olibrice will enter Florida International University, Miami in January, working towards her Masters Degree in Hospitality Management. ASF Board Member Bryan Marchena expressed particular pride in Godelieve, who triumphed over personal obstacles this past year to focus on her studies and achieve excellent grades. "We admire individuals like her because they fully appreciate the opportunity offered them and have their priorities in place."



Godelieve Olibrice far right and proud family

This year, ASF President Clyde Harms was unable to attend, and the awarding was done by board members Mr.

Marchena, Hans Schnog, Eric D'Arnault and Thais Nierop-Kappel.

Rembrandt Regatta ...

Continued from page 4



Second and third place sunfish

During the final awards presentation at the regatta's Eagle Beach headquarters, older winners were presented with cases of Amstel Bright along with their trophies. Jennifer Kock, Head of Philately for PostAruba presented all ages with a framed first day ensemble of a special Rembrandt Regatta commemorative stamp by artist Adolfo Valbueana, which was issued this month.

There were seven categories of awards covering a broad range of ages and sailing disciplines. First place windsurfing awards in the Superkids and Prokids categories went to Jean Paul da Silva and Ethan Westera respectfully. Pechi Pechacek won first place

in Kitesurfing and Jurgen Schneider in Sunfish.

Despite heavy showers, the two man teams for the Beachcats were out on the water on Sunday morning, and Martin and Nicole v/d Velden claimed first place. Francis van Baaren teamed with Henk Hankart tied with Rob and Sil Grijpma for second with equal points. Francis and Henk were first across the line to take second place.

The Yachting class final results were: Screaming Eagle in third place, Eric Mijts and his crew on Eva Luna won second place and Dash, from Curacao, took home the top trophy.

by Rosalie Klein



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Harvard again tops China university survey

SHANGHAI (AFP) - A ranking of the world's top schools compiled by a Chinese university has put Harvard first for the tenth year, in a list dominated by US institutions.

The rankings of the world's top 500 universities, released by Shanghai's Jiaotong University yesterday, have previously provoked controversy for placing an emphasis on scientific research.

Harvard University has taken the top spot for the life of the survey, which was started in 2003.

Of the top 20 schools in 2012, only three were outside the United States, including Britain's Cambridge in fifth and Oxford in 10th. The top Asian school was the University of Tokyo in 20th place.

The annual list uses six indicators, including the number of Nobel prizes and Fields medals won, the number of highly cited researchers on staff and the number of articles by faculty published in Nature and Science magazines.

The top five this year was rounded out by Stanford University in second, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in third and the Univer-

sity of California at Berkeley in fourth.

For Continental Europe, the highest ranked was the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich in 23rd place, followed by two French schools, the University of Paris-Sud 11 at 37 and Pierre and Marie Curie University at 42.

The list was originally conceived to benchmark the performance of Chinese universities, amid efforts by Beijing to create a set of world-class research institutions.

But some European officials say the criteria neglect the humanities and are thus biased against Europe's universities.

Greater China -- including mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong -- has no universities in the top 100 but is second for the number of schools in the top 500 with 42, according to a statement released with the rankings.

Mainland China's top ranked school was prestigious Peking University, which was in the top 200, closely followed by Jiaotong itself, beating out Tsinghua University, which is often called China's MIT.

Brazil court orders work on Amazon dam suspended

BRASILIA (AFP) - A federal court in Brazil has ordered the suspension of work on the huge Belo Monte hydro-electric dam in the Amazon, the third largest dam in the world, a court official said yesterday.

The official said the regional federal court ruled that the construction of the dam across the Xingu River should be immediately suspended pending a congressional hearing at which the area's indigenous people would be heard.

The court noted that when

Congress approved the project in 2005, it called for an environmental impact study after the start of the work.

Under the law, the native communities were given the right to air their views in Congress on the basis of that environmental impact study, but this was not done, the court said.

It noted that the Norte Energia consortium in charge of the project will be able to appeal the decision to a higher court.

Norte Energia told AFP it was awaiting formal notification of the court ruling before responding.

The court said the consortium was liable for a daily fine of \$250,000 should it flout the order.

Work began a year ago, despite fierce opposition from local people and green activists.

Indigenous groups fear the dam will harm their way of life while environmentalists have warned of deforestation, greenhouse-gas emissions and irreparable damage to the ecosystem.

Belo Monte is expected to flood an area of 500 square kilometers (200 square miles) along the Xingu and displace 16,000 people, according to the government, although some NGOs put the number at 40,000 displaced.

The federal government plans to invest a total \$1.2 billion to assist the displaced, by the time the dam is completed in 2019.

Ex-PM says Syria regime collapsing



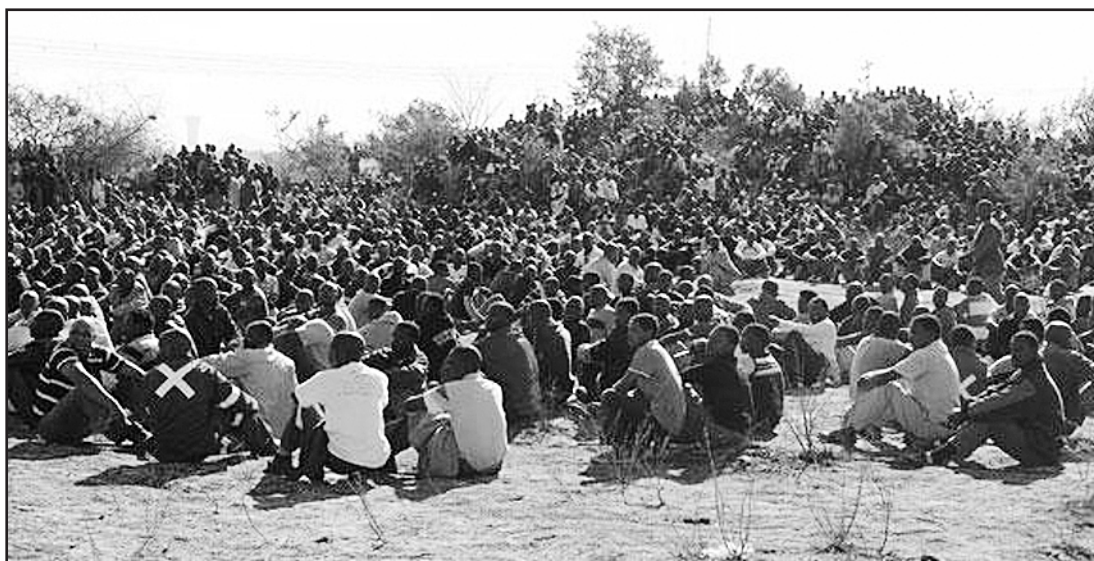
Syria's former prime minister, the highest profile government figure to defect, said yesterday the regime was collapsing and controlled barely a third of the conflict-racked country.

"The Syrian regime only controls 30 percent of Syria's territory. It has collapsed militarily, economically and morally," Riad Hijab told a news conference in the Jordanian capital Amman.

Old regime loyalists attack Yemen defence ministry



AFP photo shows Yemeni security forces patrolling a street in the capital Sanaa on August 14, 2012. Troops from Yemen's elite Republican Guard force, led by the son of ousted president Ali Abdullah Saleh, attacked the headquarters of the defence ministry but were repelled, witnesses said. The assault with heavy machineguns and rocket-propelled grenades came a week after President Abdrabuh Mansur Hadi ordered a restructuring of the armed forces as part of a UN-backed plan to ease power away from veteran strongman Saleh who had ruled in Sanaa since 1978. The attack left five people dead. Washington called for "restraint" by all sides in the impoverished Arabian Peninsula nation which it sees as a key partner in its "war on terror".



SOUTH AFRICA, RUSTENBURG : Miners staged a sit-in close to the village of Rustenburg on August 14, 2012 near a platinum mine run by leading producer Lonmin, where nine people were killed in clashes between rival unions in South Africa, the world's largest supplier of the precious metal. In two days, seven Lonmin employees were killed, while two of the police sent to quell the unrest were hacked to death in two days of violence which started off as an illegal work stoppage on Friday called by one of the unions. (AFP PHOTO)



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Former Argentine leader goes on trial in bribery case

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - Argentina's ex-president Fernando de la Rúa went on trial yesterday, accused of paying \$5 million in bribes to senators to pass a disputed labor reform bill in 2000.

De la Rúa, 74, who fled the presidential palace during the country's economic meltdown in 2001, appeared calm as the trial opened.

He could face up to 10 years in prison if he is found guilty of the charges, which include "aggravated active bribery" and "misappropriation of public funds."

The former president has on several occasions denied that he bribed legislators and claims he is the victim of a political vendetta.

The labor reform measures allowed firms to hire workers with fewer conditions for shorter periods of time. The International Monetary Fund had made the reforms a condition for extending Argentina financial aid.

The scandal contributed to a political crisis and the worst economic collapse in the nation's history, which set off deadly riots that drove de la Rúa from office.

Current President Cristina Kirchner, a senator in 2000 who voted against the labor law, is expected to give written testimony in the case.

Former parliamentary secretary Mario Pontaquarto -- who has confessed to the bribery scandal -- is also on trial.

Pontaquarto alleged that, acting on De La Rúa's orders, he was in charge of handing \$4.6 million to each of five senators so they would approve the labor reform law.

De la Rúa resigned on December 20, 2001, amid a violent uprising in response to the economic collapse.

The trial is expected to last six to eight months, with nearly 400 witnesses expected to testify.

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Syria says fate of displaced not a UN issue

DAMASCUS (AFP) - Syria said yesterday that international sanctions had hurt only the innocent and that the fate of more than a million people displaced by the conflict was "not a UN issue", in an apparent snub to the visiting UN humanitarian chief.

Valerie Amos held talks with a number of Syrian officials including new Prime

Minister Wael al-Halqi on a mission to discuss how to step up relief efforts as the country faces an increasingly precarious humanitarian crisis.

Arab and Western sanctions on the regime "have only affected innocent Syrians," Halqi said, according to the state news agency SANA.

Halqi said he had faith in "Syria's capacity to resist, to

overcome the crisis and to bring about reconciliation, security and stability across the country".

State minister for national reconciliation Ali Haidar said his office's priority was to "stop the violence," and that the return of displaced Syrians to their homes was "a mission of the Syrian government, not of the UN or international in-

stitutions," according to state news agency SANA.

Two million people are now estimated to have been affected by the 17-month conflict and more than one million are internally displaced as fighting continues in Damascus, Aleppo and other cities, according to Amos's office.

"It is impossible to address a humanitarian situation in any

region without taking into account the security situation there and the violence that surrounds it," said Haidar.

The office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said yesterday that almost 157,600 Syrians had fled the violence and crossed into Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq, although many more have left but not registered officially.

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Health & Living

Anti-abortion bus to target Obama in key US states

WASHINGTON (AFP) - An anti-abortion group plans to launch a bus tour next week through five key states in this year's White House race to highlight President Barack Obama's "extreme" record on the polarizing issue.

The Susan B. Anthony List (SBA List) on August 20 will embark on a tour of 30 cities in five swing states -- Iowa, Wisconsin, Ohio, Virginia and Florida -- with a bus banner reading: "Women Speak Out: Abortion is Not Health Care."

The bus passengers will call for the defeat of Obama and his "team of fellow abortion extremists in Congress" in the November 6 election, the group said in a statement.

The group meanwhile lauded Paul Ryan, tapped Saturday to be the Republican vice presidential candidate, as a "longtime pro-life advocate," further cementing his popularity among the party faithful.

The group accuses Obama of having expanded taxpayer funding of abortions through his landmark health care reform, which allows federal subsidies to be used to cover abortion in cases of rape, incest or to save the mother's life.

The 2010 health care reform law -- which will expand medical coverage to some 32 million Americans -- specifies that federal funds are not to be used to cover abortions for other reasons.

The SBA List will also demand that the US government cut off funding to Planned Parenthood, which provides discounted medical procedures --

including abortions for as little as \$300 -- to low-income women.

Republicans have long called for the overturning of Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 Supreme Court ruling legalizing abortion, and the issue is among the most polarizing in American politics.

Last week Obama sought to rally women voters by accusing rival Mitt Romney's Re-

publicans of wanting to turn the clock back to the 1950s by limiting women's access to contraception and other services.

Obama said a Romney repeal of the health care law would deny vital medical services to women, including in some cases free birth control, breast cancer screenings and other preventive care insurance firms must now cover.

US nuns ready to talk with Vatican after rebuke

WASHINGTON (AFP) - American nuns in open conflict with the Vatican over claims they have "radical feminist" views and have strayed too far from Catholic doctrine offered Friday to talk with top Church leaders.

Nearly a thousand nuns met in Saint Louis, Missouri, for an annual assembly of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) to craft a response to a three-year Vatican probe that criticized them for taking liberal stances on contraception, homosexuality and the question of women priests.

The Vatican's doctrinal watchdog, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF), found that the nuns had "serious doctrinal problems" and accused them of staying "silent on the right to life" and failing to promote the Church's view of heterosexual family life and sexuality.

The LCWR, which represents 57,000 nuns across the

United States, said it hoped for an "open and honest dialogue" with the Vatican that would "lead not only to increasing understanding between the church leadership and women religious, but also to creating more possibilities for the laity and, particularly for women, to have a voice in the Church."

Nuns at the conference called on their leaders to hold talks with Archbishop Peter Sartain of Seattle, who heads a Vatican-appointed team of US bishops assigned to supervise reform of the group.

The US Church has been increasingly involved in social work and education, with nuns taking on areas previously reserved for men in the institution, including marriage and psychological counseling.

Some members of the US Church have also spoken out against what they view as extreme rigidity on questions surrounding contraception and homosexuality.



(AFP) - Nepal urged foreign travellers to take precautions against cholera after 13 people died in an outbreak in the remote west of the country. Visitors were urged by GD Thakur, director of the Himalayan nation's epidemiology and disease control department, to drink boiled or mineral water and "pay attention to their personal care and hygiene". Nepal is nearing the height of its monsoon season, when diarrhoea-related illnesses normally spike because of contaminated water sources. Cholera is caused by bacteria in water or food, which has usually been contaminated with the faeces of an infected person. If untreated it can kill within a day through dehydration, with the old and the young the most vulnerable.



SAN ANTONIO, TX (AFP) - U.S. Army Spc. Matthew Spang, 26, wipes out while flowboarding on a wave machine at the Center for the Intrepid rehabilitation center at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), in San Antonio, Texas. The wave therapy is designed to improve balance, coordination and strength for injured soldiers, most of whom have lost limbs in combat. Spang, from Rapids Wisconsin, lost both legs in Afghanistan in December, 2011 when his vehicle ran over an IED. BAMC comprises the Center for the Intrepid, the San Antonio Military Medical Center, the largest inpatient medical facility in the Department of Defense, and several outlying clinics. The hospital is home to the DOD's only burn center and Level 1 trauma center in the United States. Thousands of U.S. military war wounded, most suffering from amputations, burns and functional limb loss in Afghanistan and previously in Iraq, spend months, if not years, in outpatient care at the center.

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Sci-Tech

ISS crew to embark on two spacewalks in August

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Four International Space Station crew members will embark on two spacewalks to install new equipment and replace defective installations, the US space agency NASA said Tuesday. Russia's Gennady Padalka and Yuri Malenchenko will carry out a six-hour spacewalk on August 20, the lead flight director for the current ISS mission, Dina Contella, told reporters from the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

The cosmonauts, who have

racked up a total of 12 spacewalks between them, will install a shield to protect one of the ISS modules from micro-meteorites and space debris. They will also reposition a telescopic crane.

On August 30, American Sunita Williams and Japan's Akihiko Hoshide will leave the station for about six and a half hours to replace a faulty camera and cables.

They will also install the equipment needed for the upcoming arrival of a Russian laboratory module at the ISS.

This will be Williams' fifth spacewalk and Hoshide's first.

The main challenge of the two missions will be to realize the tasks within the allotted time, said lead US spacewalk officer Kieth Johnson.

In the first spacewalk, the most difficult task for the cosmonauts will be moving the telescopic crane, Contella said.

In addition to the spacewalks, the current ISS team is preparing for the arrival of four cargo vessels -- two from Russia, one from Europe and one from Japan.

Giant pregnant Burmese python caught in Florida



MIAMI (AFP) - The largest Burmese python ever found in Florida has been caught in the Everglades, scientists said Tuesday, and it contained 87 eggs -- also thought to be a record.

"This thing is monstrous, it's about a foot wide," Kenneth Krysko, the herpetology collection manager at the Florida Museum of Natural History, said of the 17-foot-7-inch (5.35-meter) creature.

Scientists at the University of Florida-based museum examined the 164.5-pound (74.5-kilogram) snake on Friday as part of a government research project into managing the pervasive effect of Burmese pythons in Florida.

The giant snakes -- native to southeast Asia and first found in the Everglades in 1979 -- prey on native birds, deer, bobcats, alligators and other large animals.

With no known natural predator, population estimates

for the Burmese python in Florida range from the thousands to hundreds of thousands.

They were classed as an established species in 2000 and are a significant concern given their numbers, longevity and prolific ability to breed.

"It means these snakes are surviving a long time in the wild," Krysko said, noting the importance of finding such a large example of the species. "There's nothing stopping them and the native wildlife are in trouble."

A rapid surge in numbers has led to recent state laws prohibiting people from owning Burmese pythons as pets or transporting the snakes across state lines without a federal permit.

Florida also allows residents to hunt pythons in wildlife management areas during established seasons under a licensing system.

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ACROSS

1. Expectant
5. Religious group
9. Formula catcher
12. Pastrami peddler's place
13. Hold at bay
14. Twenty-____-gun salute
15. Dates
16. Staff member
17. 1040 org.
18. Sparkling fireworks
21. Up in years
22. Bakery or bar order
23. Frequent bake-sale sponsor: abbr.
26. Publicize
28. Sommer of "Ten Little Indians"
32. I, V, X, and L, e.g.
36. Word that makes the china shop owner cringe
37. Boring point
38. M.'s spouse
39. Poetic contraction
42. Owing
44. 1953 Hepburn-Peck film
50. GI's address
51. Long narrative
52. Fat: Fr.
54. "Simpsons" character
55. Like a tie score
56. ____ No Mountain

High Enough"

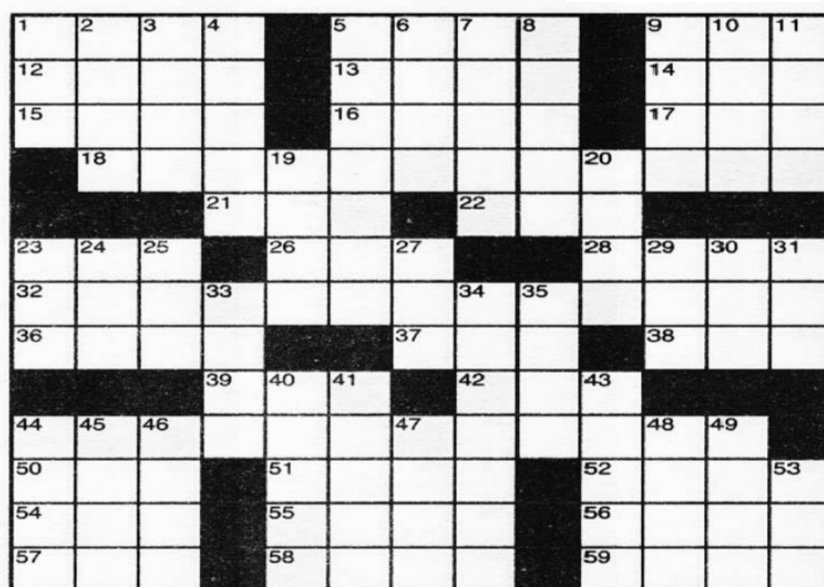
57. Floe fill
58. ____ off (angry)
59. Tidy up an autumn yard

DOWN

1. Commercial notices
2. Actor Will of "The Waltons"
3. Dairy case purchase
4. Gadget
5. Replacement
6. Guitarist Clapton
7. Material for a hamster's bedding
8. Itty-bitty
9. Prepare cabbage
10. Regarding
11. Nickname of Anne Boleyn's daughter
19. Author Sillitoe
20. "Home on the Range" creature
23. Golf instructor
24. Exceedingly
25. Hi-fi power source, for short
27. ____ the wrong way
29. Director Ringo
30. Dutch airline: abbr.
31. Nationality suffix
33. Wire-haired

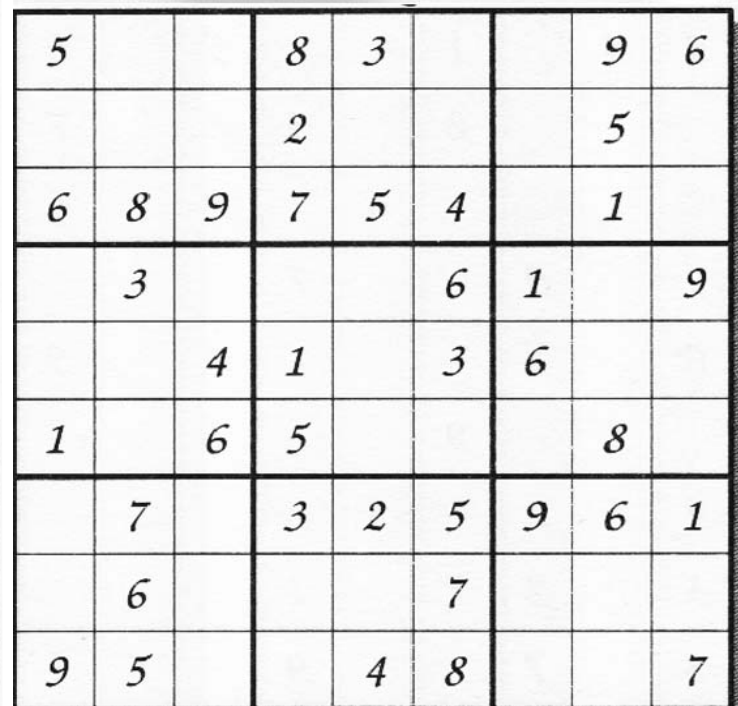
terrier of films

34. Laura Bush's hometown
35. Needle holder
40. Map addition
41. Plane
43. Candice's dad
44. The Buddha's mother was one
45. Cartel founded in 1960: abbr.
46. Fashion
47. Curved molding
48. Song at the Met
49. Pull impatiently
53. Holy lady's abbr.



LIKE LIVY

Sudoku



SOLUTION

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	7	5	2	1	6	9	3	4
1	9	6	5	2	3	8	4	7
5	8	7	2	1	5	9	6	3
5	2	9	8	6	1	7	3	4
6	2	1	9	8	7	5	4	3
2	1	5	7	5	2	6	8	9
7	5	8	6	9	2	1	3	4
9	6	2	1	5	8	7	4	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance

Petrobras confirms major oil find off Brazil coast

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Brazil's state-owned energy giant Petrobras says it has confirmed the presence of significant quantities of light oil in deep waters off the country's southeastern coast.

The company said in a statement released late Monday that the high-grade oil was in the Carcara well, located 230 kilometers (140 miles) off the coast of the Sao Paulo state, in the BM-S-8 block.

The find had been announced March 20 and drilling has been underway since then to determine "the total thickness of the oil reservoirs as well as the presence of deeper zones of interest."

It is within the so-called "pre-salt" reserves, buried beneath several kilometers of ocean, bedrock and hot salt beds.

"New oil samples were collected at depth of up to 6,131 meters (19,000 feet)," Petrobras said, adding that the samples measured at a relatively light density of 31° API.

The statement noted that the drilling has already confirmed "an oil column of over 400 meters, showing reservoirs that are mostly continuous and connected."

Oil expert Adriano Pires, head of the Brazilian Infrastructure Center, said the announcement was "good news" but cautioned that Carcara's proven reserves were not yet known.

"The drilling has not been completed. The column is big but nobody knows the proven reserves, the results from all of

the drilled wells. There is no word on its commercialization. It's all speculation," he added.

Pires recalled that earlier this month Petrobras blamed its second-quarter net losses of \$663 million on the closure or abandonment of 41 drilled wells deemed not economically viable between 2009 and 2012.

The National Petroleum Agency estimates that the huge pre-salt reserves, discovered in 2006, could hold more than 100 billion barrels of high-quality recoverable crude and could turn Brazil into one of the world's top exporters.

With planned investments of \$235.5 billion through 2016 for pre-salt exploration, Petrobras hopes to double its production -- currently two million barrels a day -- by 2020.

Germany skirts recession as investor confidence falls

Rising exports and consumer demand helped inoculate the German economy, Europe's biggest, against the recession plaguing many of its neighbours, but investor confidence is fading, data showed yesterday.

The national statistics office Destatis calculated that German gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 0.3 percent in the period from April to June, while the eurozone economy as a whole contracted by 0.2 percent.

At the start of this year, Germany had notched up even stronger growth of 0.5 percent, but the economic powerhouse is beginning to feel the effects of the long-running debt crisis that has pushed much of Europe into recession.

Destatis attributed Germany's solid performance to

robust household spending and rising exports.

"Positive impulses came from both consumer spending and from net foreign trade," the statisticians said in a statement.

"According to preliminary data, exports grew somewhat faster than imports. Furthermore, both private and public spending was higher than in the preceding quarter, helping to offset a decline in investment," they said.

While many of Germany's eurozone partners are teetering on the edge of or are already in

recession, the bloc's economic giant is continuing to expand, thanks largely to deep structural reforms implemented a number of years ago.

However, with much of Europe in the doldrums, German exports, too, are beginning to falter and some analysts believe overall growth could soon grind to a halt.

A raft of recent economic data -- ranging from foreign trade statistics to industrial orders, new car registrations and business confidence -- suggests that Germany's growth momentum is indeed fading.

Dutch economy grows again in Q2 but eurozone contracts

THE HAGUE -- The Dutch economy showed quarter on quarter growth of 0.2% in the second three months of this year, the national statistics office CBS said in initial estimates published yesterday.

This is higher than the growth recorded by France in the second quarter and slightly below the latest German growth figures.

Compared with the second quarter of 2011, the economy contracted by 0.5%.

The Dutch economy also grew by 0.2% in the first quarter of this year. Yet despite the light growth, the Netherlands

is still in an economic dip, the CBS said.

Exports are up 3.6% on the previous quarter but household spending has gone down for the fourth quarter, and company investments are also down, driven by problems in the construction sector.

Meanwhile, the European statistics agency Eurostat said yesterday the economy of the eurozone shrank 0.2% in the three months from April to June, compared with the first quarter.

The contraction followed zero growth in the first three months of the year.



LONDON -- Handout photo, obtained from the "The Bristol Pound" on August 14, 2012, shows a selection photos showing specimen banknotes created by businesses in the English city of Bristol. The Bristol pound -- usable only with member businesses -- is to launch in September, and organisers are deluged with local firms wanting to sign up. "The perception of banking and money is that it's a very ruthless system: people are out for what they can get," co-founder Ciaran Mundy told AFP. As Britain loses faith in its banks and feels shockwaves from the euro crisis, the city in southern England is trying to keep local wealth in local pockets with the launch of its own currency. "This is about saying yes to something new. It's tapping into a different set of values about money." Evoking a long history of dissent, one side of the £5 note shows a tiger writing on a wall in graffiti: "O Liberty!" Businesses can pay local taxes in Bristol pounds and the council has offered its 17,000 staff the option of receiving part of their pay in the currency. (AFP PHOTO)

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

B	O	L	O	T	W	O	A	J	A	R
O	D	O	R	R	O	I	L	I	N	E
G	E	N	E	P	O	O	L	O	M	N
	G	A	Y		C	O	N	M	A	N
M	A	J	O	R		A	L	L	E	Y
A	L	A	N		F	L	O	E	O	C
T	O	Y		P	O	E	T	S	P	H
H	E	W		A	R	C	H		M	E
	A	D	A	M	S		T	I	N	N
A	L	L	U	R	E		E	A	R	
L	A	K	E		R	O	B	B	A	N
I	M	E	T		L	A	B		G	O
T	A	R	S		Y	R	S		E	D

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Current as of:	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
08/14/2012				
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
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Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.81
Britain	GBP	2.73	2.78	2.84
Switzerland	CHF	182.98	183.70	184.50
Netherlands	EUR	218.01	220.00	222.21
Sweden	SEK	25.69	26.41	27.21
Denmark	DKK	28.58	29.30	30.10
Norway	NOK	29.16	29.88	30.68
Japan	JPY	224.42	226.47	228.75
(per 100)				
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British couple claim record 190 mn euro lottery jackpot



LONDON (AFP) - A British couple have claimed a record prize in the EuroMillions lottery, officials announced.

Adrian and Gillian Bayford, from Suffolk in eastern England, were the sole winners of the £149 million (\$235 mil-

lion) jackpot in Friday's draw.

Their jackpot beats that won by Scottish couple Colin and Chris Weir, who became Europe's biggest ever lottery winners in July last year when they scooped 185 million euros.

But the current euro conversion rate means the prize is worth less in pounds than the £161 million won by the Weirs.

The couple had a one in 116,531,800 chance of holding the lucky numbers.

Across Europe, 14 tickets selected six correct numbers, and will win more than 2,641,000 euros each.

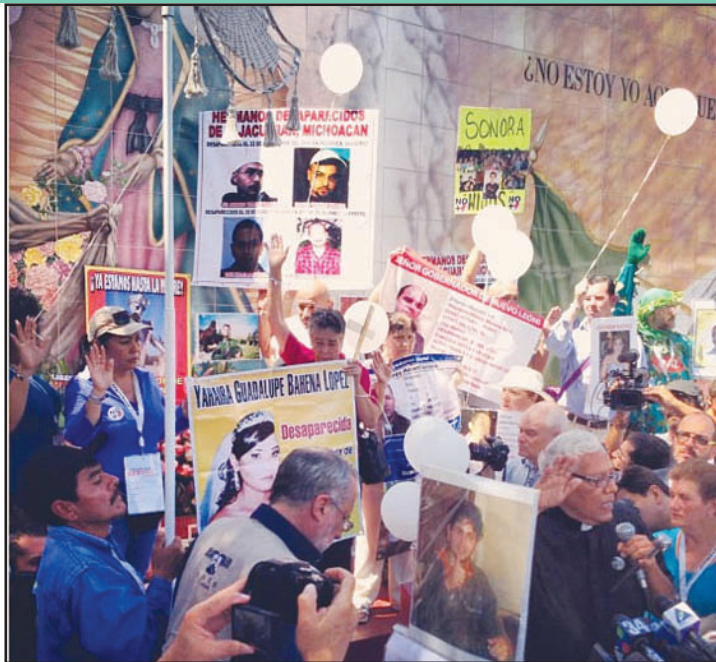
The EuroMillions lottery, launched in 2004, is now played by nine countries across western Europe: Austria, Belgium, Britain, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland.

Five of the top ten jackpots in the history of EuroMillions have been British. More British players tend to take part when the jackpot is particularly large.

Drug war 'peace caravan' woos Hollywood

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - A "peace caravan" has reached Los Angeles in search of Hollywood support for its crusade to end to the US war on drugs, which organizers blame for the violence tearing up Mexico.

"The artists are the opposite of the barbarity we are living with," said Mexican poet Javier Sicilia, who launched the campaign against the drug war in his homeland after his son's murder last year.



Sicilia led his protest caravan across the Mexican border to San Diego Sunday, the start of a month-long swing to press his group's message that US drug policies are fueling the violence in Mexico, where over 50,000 have been killed since 2006.

On hand to welcome him to Los Angeles on Monday was Mexican filmmaker Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, the Oscar-nominated director of "Biutiful" and "Babel."

"What unites us is grief for what Mexico has lost, which is peace," Gonzalez Inarritu said.

The protesters, backed by a slew of civic organizations, are pressing for a change in US policy that would treat drug use more as a public health problem than a criminal matter.

They are also pushing for

tighter controls on the sale of weapons in the United States, which the Mexican government says is helping to fuel drug violence on its side of the border.

Participants will head east along the US-Mexico border for over 8,000 kilometers (5,000 miles), with stops in Santa Fe, El Paso, Houston, Montgomery, New Orleans, Chicago and New York before ending their journey in Washington on September 10.



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LOS ANGELES (AFP) - "The Bourne Legacy," the latest installment in the popular action series, dethroned the new Batman film to take the top spot in the North American box office, industry figures showed yesterday. The fourth Bourne thriller -- starring Jeremy Renner as a secret agent threatened by his employers, and not Matt Damon as Jason Bourne -- raked in \$38.1 million in its opening weekend, movie tracker Exhibitor Relations said. Another new release, the political spoof "The Campaign" starring Will Ferrell and Zach Galifianakis, brought in nearly \$26.6 million -- good enough for second place in the weekend rankings. "The Dark Knight Rises," the final installment of the Batman trilogy directed by Christopher Nolan, fell to third place with \$19 million, after topping the chart each week since it opened last month. The film, starring Christian Bale, has already pulled in nearly \$389.6 million in domestic box office sales, despite the mass shooting at an opening night screening in Colorado that left 12 dead and 58 wounded. A new romantic comedy starring Meryl Streep and Tommy Lee Jones, "Hope Springs," about a married couple trying to get back their spark, came in fourth place with \$14.7 million. In fifth place, science-fiction action remake "Total Recall," with \$8.01 million in ticket sales, narrowly beat out teen comedy "Diary of A Wimpy Kid: Dog Days" at \$8 million. "Ice Age: Continental Drift," the fourth installment of a popular animated series, took in \$6.4 million for seventh place.

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and

drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious,

connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge



offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet

services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Budget Car Rental celebrating 50 years budget-minded service!



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The car rental name synonymous with savings will next month celebrate their golden anniversary of operating on Aruba! One of the first of its kind to establish a car rental agency with highly competitive prices, it still maintains that standard of offering the best service, a diverse fleet of vehicles to meet each renters needs, at the best price possible.

Budget has a fleet of 250 autos on Aruba, ranging from subcompact to authentic Jeep Wrangler® hardtop 4X4 or the stylish Toyota Rav 4, for exploring Aruba's outback in air-conditioned comfort. Their standard Toyota Yaris, the most popular model, is known for quality and dependability. Each year, they refresh 25% of their fleet and retire the older cars. Compared to the U.S., car rentals are quite affordable on Aruba, with the third party liability insurance included in the rental rates, as required by law.

Budget's head office is in Camacuri, not far from the airport, but they maintain an outlet right at the airport and another conveniently located in the Arawak Gardens in Palm Beach, an easy stroll from all the Palm Beach resorts. Budget will provide free transportation to their Arawak Gardens outlet from any hotel, and return you to your door when turning in your car.

A Toyota Yaris rents for \$174 for the week; there is an additional airport concession fee to have a car available immediately on arrival, but this is balanced out by the cost of roundtrip fares to most resorts, and on weekly rentals is a decided savings.

Budget has become the world's third largest car rental franchise because of their commitment to quality service and product at the best price possible, and the staff of Budget Car Rental Aruba is equally dedicated to seeing their customers smile

SPORTS

Football: Call me 'unique' not 'special' says Mourinho



LISBON (AFP) - Real Madrid coach Jose Mourinho said Tuesday that he would prefer to be known as the "unique one" rather than the "special one" as a result of his achievements.

"I'm the only one to have won the three biggest championships in the world," Mourinho said in an interview on Portuguese television channel Sic.

"So whether it pleases or not, if one recognises my value or not... people should may be call me 'unique' rather than 'special' until someone else wins three champi-

onships like me."

It was Mourinho who proclaimed himself to be the "special one" when he was coach of English Premier League side Chelsea from 2004 to 2007.

The Portuguese coach joined Real Madrid in 2010 and won the Primera Liga title in his second season to become one of the few coaches to win titles in four different countries -- Portugal, England, Italy and Spain.

He is also the only coach to have won two Champions League titles with two different clubs -- FC Porto in 2004 and Inter Milan in 2010.

Mourinho coached FC Porto (Portuguese champions 2003, 2004 and Champions League winners 2004), Chelsea (English Premier League title 2005, 2006) and Inter Milan (Serie A champions in 2009, 2010).

The 49-year-old said he felt "an enormous joy at Inter Milan" when they won their titles but insisted that his goals were shifting with age.

"I'm turning increasingly

towards people," he said. "That's what motivates me more and more, instead of pursuing individual goals."

Football: Kompany says Van Persie would improve City

LONDON (AFP) - Manchester City captain Vincent Kompany has no doubt the arrival of want-away Arsenal striker Robin van Persie would make the English Premier League champions a stronger side.

With just days to go until the start of the new season, Arsenal's reported £20 million asking price for the striker, who scored a mammoth 37 goals last term, has yet to be met.

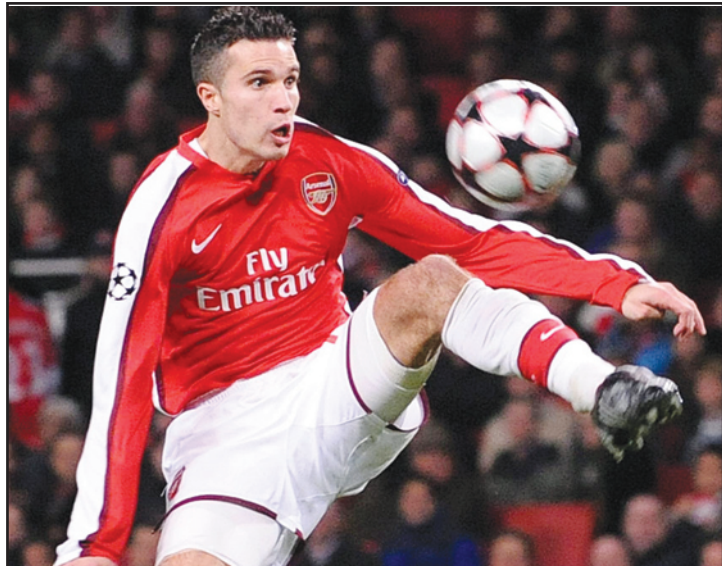
Manchester United appear to be leading the chasing pack for the Gunners captain but City skipper Kompany said the 29-year-old van Persie would be more than welcome at Eastlands.

"It's very easy to say you want to play next to Robin van Persie," Kompany told Sky Sports News.

"He's a great player. He's proved it so many times last season and any team he would play for he'd make it stronger."

Van Persie made his only pre-season appearance for Ar-

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senal on Sunday against Cologne.

The Dutchman, whose contract expires at the end of the 2012-13 season, was booed by some Gunners fans when he came off the bench, but Arsenal centre-back Thomas Vermaelen was optimistic the star striker would stay with the north London club.

"To me he looks fit and sharp in training," Vermaelen

said. "He's working hard. He's working on his fitness. I don't see anything (different) and I hope he stays the next four years as well."

"I don't know what happens behind the scenes but at the moment I can only say he's a player for Arsenal."

"I feel really positive for the new season. If we all stay fit, the squad is strong enough to compete for the title."



Den Bosch, The Netherlands : An Aerial view taken using an Octocopter, a remote controlled helicopter, shows the ceremony honouring the Dutch Olympic team in Den Bosch yesterday. The Netherlands won 20 medals at the London 2012 Olympi Games, including 6 gold.

AFP/Photo



Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner

Monday - Sunday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m

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BRASILIA (AFP) - Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff received the Olympic flag on Tuesday as the competition's world governing body warned that the country had to "work harder" ahead of the Rio 2016 Summer Games. Rio Mayor Eduardo Paes flew into Rio de Janeiro from London with the flag on Monday, marking the official handover of the Games, and later today the flag will be paraded through several Rio neighborhoods. (R-L) Brazil's Esquiva Falcao Florentino Men's Middle (75kg) boxing silver medallist, Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes, Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff, Brazilian Olympic Committee President Carlos Arthur Nuzman and Yamaguchi Falcao Florentino, Men's Light Heavy (81kg).



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Football: Messi, Ronaldo, Iniesta up for best player award



Lionel Messi

PARIS (AFP) - World player of the year Lionel Messi was named on Tuesday among the three finalists in the UEFA Best Player in Europe Award

short-list along with Barcelona teammate Andres Iniesta and Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo.

Argentina's Messi beat Ronaldo and Xavi Hernandez last year to win the inaugural



Andres Iniesta

edition of the prize, which is awarded after a vote of European sports journalists.

The second edition will be presented in Monaco on August 30 on the sidelines of the draw for the Champions

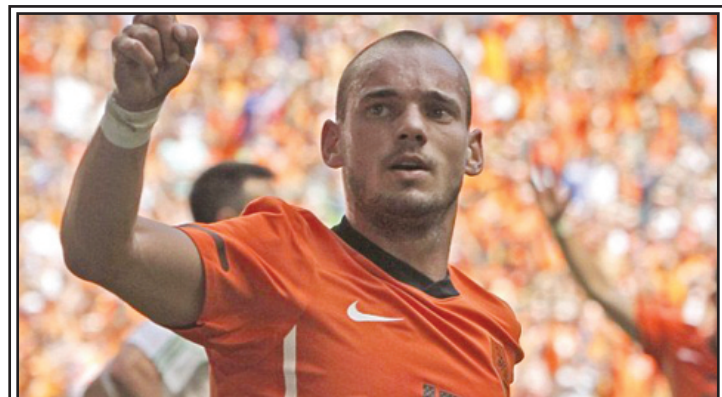


Cristiano Ronaldo

League group stages.

Messi was La Liga's top scorer with 50 goals last season, four more than Ronaldo, and capped his season by winning a third Ballon d'Or title.

But Barcelona finished second behind Real Madrid who set records for most La Liga wins in a season with 32, most goals scored (121) and best goal difference (plus-89) en route to a first league title in four years.



BRUSSELS (AFP) - Holland's freshly appointed coach Luis Van Gaal has named Inter Milan's Wesley Sneijder as his new captain for today's friendly against Belgium and for the upcoming World Cup qualification campaign, he said yesterday. The 28-year-old who won the 2010 Champions League under Jose Mourinho before helping Holland to the World Cup final in South Africa counts 87 caps and 24 goals to his name and takes over from previous captain Mark Van Bommel, who is not included in Van Gaal's latest squad. He made his international debut in 2003 as a 19-year-old whilst playing for Ajax before going into a two-year spell at Real Madrid, where he won the 2008 Liga crown.

Football: Bin Hammam vows to fight latest FIFA ban



LONDON (AFP) - Qatar's Mohamed bin Hammam has insisted he will clear his name after FIFA's ethics committee opened investigation proceedings against him.

The former Asian Football Confederation president was handed a lifetime ban from football last year after being found guilty of bribery by a FIFA ethics committee panel during his campaign for the presidency of the sport's world governing body.

However, bin Hammam's ban was overturned by the Court of Arbitration for Sport on July 19 after his appeal was upheld on grounds of insufficient evidence.

He was provisionally suspended by FIFA's ethics com-

mittee following the CAS ruling before the body opened formal investigation proceedings against him last Friday.

Bin Hammam has pledged to clear his name, telling the BBC: "My legal team has filed an immediate response to the actions of the AFC and FIFA in relation to my latest politically-motivated ban.

The 63-year-old, who spearheaded Qatar's successful bid to win the 2022 World Cup, has always described his punishment as politically motivated retribution for his attempt to unseat FIFA president Sepp Blatter.

Bin Hammam was found guilty by FIFA's ethics committee last year of paying bribes to Caribbean Football Union officials at a meeting in Trinidad while campaigning against Blatter.

Jack Warner, who quit as FIFA vice-president after the scandal broke, told officials gifts of 40,000 US dollars each and totalling around one million US dollars had come from Bin Hammam.

The Qatari was subject to a 30-day temporary suspension by the AFC, which was extended worldwide by FIFA on July 26.

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